

transportation. Likewise, the dealers admit, there is a shortage of coal at the mines, due to the scarcity of labor. But the dealers declare there is no danger of a coal famine if the coal users will be reasonable in their demands instead of trying to get all the coal there is at once.

It is stated that while there has been actually less coal in the District during the past month than there has ever been before at this time of the year, there has been more coal ordered by householders than ever before—actual excess, the dealers say over the actual needs of the householders.

That is the reason for the suggestion that the householders, the individual consumers, be put on "ration" and only permitted to have a certain quantity of coal.

The situation calls for some treatment on the part of the public," declares Jesse C. Suter, secretary of the Coal Merchants' Association of the District. "There is an actual shortage of coal. That cannot be denied or the facts minimized. But there is little danger of an actual coal famine if the consumers of coal will use judgment in their orders."

"At the present time everybody who consumes coal seems to be making a stock and to want their whole winter's supply at once. People who have never bought more than a ton of coal at a time are trying to get six and eight tons now. If they can't get the quantity they want from their own dealer they take what has got, and then go to another dealer or dealers for the rest."

"The result has been to greatly complicate the problem, the coal dealer called on to face. The members of our association are doing their best to meet the situation and keep their contract, but they are helping out one another by 'lending' coal to meet orders."

Should Spread Out Orders.
"If people would forget there is a coal shortage and would buy only the amount of coal they actually need, I am sure the dealers would be able to tide over the situation that exists and by hard work keep everybody supplied with what they need. But if everybody tries to buy a winter's supply of coal at once, there wouldn't be enough in the District to supply it, even if we had the biggest reserve there ever was kept in the yards in the District."

THREE POSSES HUNT CLUE IN POSCHL CASE

(Continued from First Page.)

able sin," built the fire into which he threw himself as atonement for his sins. But more than that, the evidence pointed out that this was not the manner of his death. Point after point is added to this evidence, but not a single tangible clue has yet been found to point to anyone who would have wanted to do away with Poschl.

State Attorney Marvin Peach announced today he would assign a detective to the case as soon as he is needed. Meanwhile Sheriff Gates, and his deputy, Wesley Bell, are working upon it, as well as Constable Anderson.

Some of the accumulated evidence that Poschl did not kill himself follows:

No grass has yet grown around the burned brush pile, though scenes of other fires of months ago show signs of sprouting grass. This is taken to indicate that the fire was recent, and that Poschl was murdered some time before his body was cremated.

Despite report that Poschl said he intended killing himself, his body has been found with no evidence that he had fits of despondency, but neighbors he never expressed desire to take his own life. In fact it is said, he had stated that he did not see how any one could run the risk of taking his life and not being buried in consecrated ground.

Poschl apparently had made plans to visit his sister, Mrs. Ellis, in accordance with the message he sent to the Sommer family.

It is not considered strange that he should have taken this manner of conveying the message since there was company at the Sommer home on the evening of August 20, and he invariably avoided speaking to strangers if he could.

No application for a division of the estate has yet been made to the office of the register of wills at Upper Marlboro. Poschl did not leave a will. It is believed that a man of his methodical habits would have taken time to do this had he intended to kill himself.

Donation Day at Episcopal Hospital

Following their custom of observing the last Saturday in October as donation day, the Board of Lady Managers of the Episcopal Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital will receive donations of groceries, preserves, canned goods, soaps, vegetables and other household supplies to-day.

Last year, regardless of creed or color, more than 3,000 free patients were treated at the hospital, and in addition to this, it is stated, thousands of visits were made to those who applied for free treatment.

In order to accomplish such broad charity for those who are unable to pay for medical attention, the Board of Lady Managers exert constant efforts to obtain supplies and funds.

Today the hospital will be open to visitors who wish to become better acquainted with the institution. Tomorrow, Episcopal churches through the city will take up the yearly collection for the hospital.

Treasury Clerk Is Held For Grand Jury Action

At the instance of Assistant United States Attorney Arthur H. Hitt today reduced to \$2,500 the bond under which Mark Latham, clerk in the office of the Auditor for the Postoffice Department, recently was held on a charge of taking sheets of unsigned money from the Treasury Department. Latham was held for the action of the grand jury. He made no statement.

THE WEATHER REPORT.

Forecast for District of Columbia—Fair tonight and tomorrow; slightly warmer tonight.

For Maryland—Fair tonight and tomorrow; warmer in west portion; general shifting winds.

For Virginia—Fair tonight and tomorrow; warmer in interior; moderate winds, mostly northeast.

TEMPERATURES.

(U. S. Bureau.)

8 a. m. 41

9 a. m. 41

10 a. m. 41

11 a. m. 41

12 noon 41

1 p. m. 41

TIDE TABLES.

(U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.)

High tides—4:40 a. m., height 2.7.

8:57 p. m., height 3.3.

Low tides—3:06 a. m., height 0.2.

3:01 p. m., height 0.6.

SUN AND MOON TABLES.

Run rose—6:30 p. m. Sun sets—5:13

Moon rose 8:38 p. m. Moon sets 6:19 p. m.

Light automobile lamps at 5:43 p. m.

LARGE stone bridge at Lake, 1 sq. mi.

16th, 5 sq. mi. north of reservoir. Bridge not

hanging is correct, from India arrived twenty.

Australia Is Voting Today on Question of Army Conscription

Today the 2,500,000 voters of Australia will decide by a referendum whether or not there shall be compulsory military service outside the Commonwealth of Australia for the term of the European war.

The referendum is the result of the failure of the voluntary system of recruiting to secure the requisite number of recruits to keep the Australian expeditionary forces up to their maximum strength.

The conscription ballot reads as follows: Are you in favor of the government having in this great emergency the same compulsory powers over the citizens in regard to requiring their military service for the term of the war outside the Commonwealth as it now has to military service within the Commonwealth?

YES.

NO.

Not a New Principle.

Compulsory military service is not a new principle in Australia. It has been the law ever since the Commonwealth was established. Under the existing Australian defense act the government has the power to call out all adult males of military fitness between the ages of eighteen and sixty and compel them to fight anywhere within Australia for the defense of Australia. For service outside of Australia the government has to rely upon the voluntary system of obtaining recruits.

Up to September 1 the Australian government had sent 28,000 volunteers to the assistance of the allies in the various war areas, and had 40,000 men in reserve in the training camps.

When Prime Minister Hughes went to England last summer to confer with the British government relative to the war problem, Lloyd-George impressed the prime minister with the necessity of Australia's keeping her five divisions of troops up to their full strength.

For this purpose Australia was expected to send 32,500 men to the front for September, and at least 16,000 for each subsequent month until peace is declared.

Put It Up to Parliament.

Prime Minister Hughes, immediately upon his return to Australia, laid the matter before the Australian Parliament on August 30, recommending a referendum vote on the conscription question. Parliament passed the referendum bill September 28. The campaign for and against conscription began at that time, and has been conducted with vigor and bitterness on both sides.

The Government of Australia is controlled by the Labor party. Mr. Hughes himself being the Labor Prime Minister.

The House of Representatives, the Senate, and the Cabinet are composed of representatives of the Labor party. The Labor party has always opposed conscription for overseas service, and the conscriptionist policy of Mr. Hughes split the Labor forces at once.

The executive committee of the New South Wales Political League, of which Prime Minister Hughes is a member, expelled him from the Labor movement of New South Wales.

The Australian Workers' Union, which in Australia corresponds to the American Federation of Labor in the United States, organized its forces to defeat the conscription referendum and opened its campaign by suspending from office President Spence, who had been the leading man in the Australian Workers' Union for thirty years, for favoring conscription.

Conscription Manifesto.

In his conscription manifesto, issued to the voters of Australia, Prime Minister Hughes made this statement relative to the deficiency in recruits under voluntarism and the necessity of conscription:

"We must supply the men asked for. It is the price we are asked to pay for our national existence and our liberties. We must get the men. So much is certain."

The question is, then, how shall we get them? It is unfortunately only too apparent that the voluntary system of recruiting our armies does not ensure them for many months.

Indeed the numbers of volunteers have been steadily diminishing. In June, July, and August, less than one-third of the number required have enrolled.

If voluntarism fails, is the nation to fall when to fall is to perish? No nation can deny the necessity of reinforcements. No democrat can impugn the right of the nation to demand this duty from its citizens. Democracy and nationalism are one. The supreme duty which a democrat owes to his country is to fight for it.

Others may fight for dynasties and despots, but Australians fight for Australia, for democracy against tyranny, and for liberty against oppression. Unless a nation fights for its liberties, it can neither earn nor deserve them.

Extent of Failure.

The extent to which the voluntary system failed in Australia is indicated by a statement issued on September 21 by the Australian minister for defense, giving a list of the recruits for the first twenty days in September.

The quota required for the month was 22,500. To make up this quota 31,800 men should have enlisted during the twenty days, while those who actually did enlist amounted to but 5,325. The list submitted by Minister for Defense Feargeon gave the quota required from each state for the month, the enlistments for the twenty days, and the deficiency to be made up during the remaining ten days. The figures were as follows:

State.	Quota Required for Month.	Enlistments in 20 Days.	Deficiency in 20 Days.
Queensland	5,000	1,043	3,957
New South Wales	11,200	2,154	9,046
Victoria	9,800	1,365	8,435
South Australia	3,100	482	2,618
Western Australia	2,500	431	2,069
Tasmania	1,100	152	948
Total	22,500	5,325	17,175

Reduced to the number of enlistments per day, the table submitted by the minister for defense shows that the government demanded 1,083 recruits per day and obtained but 276, a recruit deficiency of 807 per day. It was this backward condition of enlistments that led Prime Minister Hughes to force the conscription question to a referendum.

Woman suffrage prevails in Australia. All men and women not under twenty-

one years of age who have lived in Australia six months continuously, who are natural born or naturalized citizens, and whose names are enrolled in any electoral division, are eligible voters.

The following persons are not permitted to vote: Those of unsound mind, accused of treason, convicted and under sentence or subject to be under sentence for an offense punishable by imprisonment for one year or longer.

Persons attached to the military and naval service abroad are likewise permitted to vote on the conscription referendum. The votes of Australian soldiers and sailors in France, Egypt, the United Kingdom, and on the high seas will be sealed up and sent to Mr. J. R. M. McE. Anderson in London, who is the returning officer for the military and naval service referendum.

It is expected that Brigadier General Anderson will be able to make his returns by November 1, although under the terms of the conscription referendum lag the military and naval vote is not required to report until November 11.

First Call for Bachelors.

In order to soften the edge of conscription, Prime Minister Hughes announced that if the conscription referendum carries the first call will be for single men without dependents.

Until the available supply of single men is exhausted, the following classes will be exempted in the order given: Married men, youths under twenty-one, single men with dependents, remaining sons of families in which one or more of the members have already enlisted.

Australia has a population of 5,000,000. The House of Representatives consists of seventy-five members, and the Senate of thirty-six. At the last federal election held in 1914, the voting strength of the Australian Parliament was as follows: House—Labor party, 42; Anti-Labor, 32; Independent, 1.

Senate—Labor party, 32; Anti-Labor party, 17,000.

In the 1914 popular vote for members of the House of Representatives and the Senate the vote stood as follows: Labor party, 1,040,000; Anti-Labor party, 552,000. Total vote—1,592,000; Labor party majority, 197,000.

Supporting Hughes.

In the conscription campaign the Anti-Labor party has rallied to the support of Prime Minister Hughes. On the other hand, the prime minister has lost the support of large numbers of the Labor party. On the eve of the referendum, both sides are claiming a victory.

The London Times, in commenting upon the labor split over the conscription question, says:

"Mr. Hughes has met with stubborn opposition, almost wholly from men who have been of his way of thinking in Australian politics. In his own cabinet there are men who have no enthusiasm for his proposition. They accept the referendum, but they are none the less opposed to the adoption of compulsory service."

As soon as Prime Minister Hughes declared for conscription, Minister for Trade and Customs Tudor resigned from the cabinet, giving as his reason that he was not in favor of "compelling men to go out of Australia to fight."

Late dispatches from Australia announce that the following members of the cabinet have also resigned in opposition to the conscription question: Minister of the Treasury Higgs, Assistant Minister of Marine Russell, and Vice President of the Executive Council Sir Gardiner.

The Australian Workers' Union, which in Australia corresponds to the American Federation of Labor in the United States, organized its forces to defeat the conscription referendum and opened its campaign by suspending from office President Spence, who had been the leading man in the Australian Workers' Union for thirty years, for favoring conscription.

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ELECTRICAL DISPLAY IN DISTRICT PLANNED

Committee in Charge Contemplates Beautiful Exhibition for Washington.

Washington will be the scene of one of the most beautiful electrical displays in America, according to plans made by a committee in charge of the local electrical exhibit during the proposed American electrical week, December 2 to 9.

The nation-wide celebration of electricity's part in building up record-making industries and its power in organizing the defensive forces of the United States will be under the auspices of the Society for Electrical Development, of New York. It is to be a demonstration and object lesson of every known electrical appliance, together with the uses to which they have been put.

In Washington, the first steps taken in connection with participation in the event have been inaugurated by representatives of every firm dealing in electrical supplies and equipment, engineers, and many individuals interested in electrical industry.

The celebration is scheduled to start on Saturday, December 2, with an electrically decorated automobile parade as the evening feature, and during the succeeding days, it is announced, there will be daily and nightly features in the form of the free admission electrical show.

The committees appointed to arrange the program for the Capital's celebration follow: Automobile parade—O. R. Evans, chairman; F. Kallas, J. H. Cunningham, R. E. Buckley and Leo Brooks. Window dressing and lighting contest—Charles J. Columbus, chairman; W. Balderson, M. Robey and E. C. Graham. Electrical show—E. C. Graham, chairman; J. R. Galloway, L. B. Schlosse and H. A. Brooks. Advertising and publicity—L. B. Schlosse, chairman; C. J. Columbus. Thomas Grant and J. H. Cunningham. Bill posting and window cards—C. A. Muddiman, chairman; Robert Smith, R. E. Buckley and Thomas Grant. Prize essay—H. R. Carroll, chairman; J. R. Galloway, L. B. Schlosse and H. A. Brooks. Electrical appliances—C. P. Hill, chairman; H. R. Carroll, H. A. Brooks and M. Robey. Finance—J. R. Galloway, chairman; W. Balderson, C. A. Muddiman and Robert Smith. Outdoor illumination—H. A. Brooks, chairman; L. S. Helm, R. B. Patterson and W. S. Madigan.

Service Badges to Be Worn on Street Cars

Within the next few days patrons of the Washington Railway and Electric Company's lines will notice that all conductors and motormen in the employ of the company for five years or more will be provided with a service badge of merit in the form of a five-pointed gold star upon the left sleeve, each star indicative of five years' continuous service.

Several instances will be noticed where men have eight stars, denoting forty years' service, and many men have five stars of merit.

In addition to the active trainmen honored with the privilege of wearing the stars, train inspectors, starters and all uniformed men will also be eligible to wear the emblem.

It was announced by the company that in providing these emblems for use by the uniformed men in service for the length of time indicated by the number of stars, the mark of distinction shown would have a tendency to create more confidence in the employee on the part of the traveling public.

G. O. P. WAR CHEST IS \$1,667,757.29

More Than Million and Half Already Spent for Hughes, Says Statement.

(Continued from First Page.)
mer, H. F. Sinclair, W. J. Harkness, Mrs. Stanley McCormick, Mrs. Henry R. Rea, W. Hinkle Smith, Theodore N. Vail, John F. Lodge, F. B. Keesch, Alois Stahl, Felix N. Warburg, Willard Straight, W. P. Holly, Up-town Dry Good Association, Frederick G. Bourne, George Lauder, H. Livingston Beekman, C. M. McNeill, E. Carlton, L. G. Phipps, George Hewitt Myers, C. S. Morey, W. H. Yawkey, Samuel P. Colt, Moses Taylor, E. W. Johnson, E. W. Stettinius, William H. Porter, James H. Wainwright, John W. Prentiss, C. C. Dula.

\$4,000 to \$25,000.
The \$4,000 contributions and less were: Edgar Mackland, \$4,000; Robert MacFarland, \$4,000; James Cousens, \$4,000; E. J. Coolidge, \$3,000; John G. Shedd, \$3,000; Dr. Robert Work, \$3,000; C. W. Waterman, \$3,000; Charles E. Pratt, \$3,000; Herbert L. Pratt, \$3,000; John T. Pratt, \$3,000; Harold J. Pratt, \$3,000; Frederick B. Pratt, \$3,000; H. D. Hutchins, \$3,000; Walter Jennings, \$3,000; James McLean, \$2,500; James B. Ford, \$2,500; H. Fulton Cutting, \$2,500; Mrs. Elizabeth M. Bliss, \$2,500; E. C. Converse, \$2,500; William Fainstock, \$2,500; W. Murray Crane, \$2,500; J. R. De La Mar, \$2,500; John W. Scott, \$2,500; Henry Goldman, \$2,500; Mrs. Whitelaw Reid, \$2,500; William L. Benedict, \$2,500; Frank G. Webster, \$2,500; Frank C. Peabody, \$2,500; P. W. Remick, \$2,500; William Endicott, \$2,500; C. S. Sargent, Jr., \$2,500; Bruce Mackelvie, \$2,500; Jeremiah Milbank, \$2,500; Gibson Fainstock, \$2,500; I. H. Rich, \$2,500; Charles Hayden, \$2,500; H. N. Duke, \$2,500; Parkinson & Burr, \$2,500; George A. Draper, \$2,500; Otto M. Elditz, \$2,500; F. B. Conley, \$2,500; Joseph Hoyer, \$2,500; Francis C. Bishop, \$2,500; W. C. Van Antwerp, \$2,500; E. W. Harnden, \$2,500; C. H. Boynton, \$2,500; S. Prager, \$2,500; F. H. Metcalf, \$2,500; George R. White, \$2,500; Mrs. G. G. Frellinghuysen, \$2,500; Stephen O. Metcalf, \$2,500; Z. Simmons, \$2,500; Albert W. Harris, \$2,500; John J. Mitchell, \$2,500; Robert H. McCormick, \$2,500; Joseph H. Bromley, \$2,500; Jay Cooke, \$2,500; Bartlett Artell, \$2,500; L. W. James, \$2,500; Dunley Milbank, \$2,500; W. G. Loew, \$2,500.

G. O. P. CONTRIBUTION AVERAGES \$152.87

Receipts of \$316,930.16 from 2,073 contributors for the national Republican Congressional committee are shown by the financial report which was filed today with the chief clerk of the House.

The report is practically a transcript of the books of the committee. For former Senator Nathan B. Scott, treasurer of the committee, filed it at the Capitol.

Senator Scott certified to the accuracy of the statement.

He called attention to the fact that the average contribution was only \$152.87, showing that there was wide spread interest in the Republican campaign indicative of certain victory at the polls.

"It is very gratifying to note that the common people representing the large mass of voters, have been so willing to aid in this campaign," said Senator Scott. "Nothing could be more significant of a Republican victory than these figures. The average contribution is small, but the number of contributors to this committee is unusually large, compared with the number of contributors it has had in past campaigns, and they are scattered through the political

units of practically every State in the Union.

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